

OPPOSITION TO RIGGS AND BISSELL

Governor's Representative Meets
Democratic State
Leaders.

RIGGS MAKES A STATEMENT

Brooklyn Opposition to His Confirmation
Presents Its Grounds
or Objection.

George M. Palmer, the new chairman of the Democratic State committee, came from Schenectady yesterday and took charge of the headquarters of the committee in West Thirty-fourth street. Soon after his arrival Mr. Palmer had a conference with Norman E. Mack, chairman of the Democratic national committee; John A. Mason, who is secretary to Gov. Dix in addition to being secretary of the State committee; Charles F. Murphy; Senator Harvey T. Ferris, who is the author of a primary bill, and James McNamee, clerk of the Assembly. William Church Osborn was present as Gov. Dix's representative.

After the conference it was admitted that the Democratic leaders had discussed, among other things, Senator Ferris's proposed new primary law and the nomination by Gov. Dix of Herbert P. Bissell and Edward G. Riggs for members of the Public Service Commission. While those who participated in the conference would not go into detail as to what had been discussed, it was admitted that those who are opposed to the confirmation of Messrs. Bissell and Riggs told Mr. Osborn just how they felt about the appointments. It is understood that the meeting was held partly for the purpose of acquainting the Governor through Mr. Osborn, with the objections to the confirmation of Mr. Bissell and Mr. Riggs. The suggestion was made, it was said, that Gov. Dix should withdraw the nominations.

At the Waldorf-Astoria last evening Gov. Dix was asked if he had received from Mr. Osborn a report of what happened at the conference. Through his military secretary, Eckford De Kay, Gov. Dix sent word that he had come to town to attend the Amen Corner dinner, that he was not discussing politics, that he would not talk about the fight on the confirmation of Mr. Bissell and Mr. Riggs, and that he would return to Albany early this morning. It is likely that when Gov. Dix gets back to Albany he will confer with members of the legislature on his public service nominations, as it has been intimated that unless he comes around to the views of the opposition there will be a fight on all his measures in the legislature.

John H. McCooey, Democratic county leader in Brooklyn, sent out yesterday morning a hurried call for a meeting of the executive committee in the afternoon to consider the nomination by Gov. Dix of Edward G. Riggs for Public Service Commissioner in the First district to succeed William M. Carroll. This resolution was passed.

Resolved, That this committee hereby records its opposition to the appointment of said Edward G. Riggs to the office of Public Service Commissioner for the First District, and hereby urges that the Democratic Senators from the county of Kings vote against his confirmation.

Those opposed to the adoption of the resolution entered a fresh protest against it, but after a brief discussion it was adopted by a vote of 22 to 5, those voting against it being Election Commissioner James Kane, leader of the Third Assembly district; Senator Cullen's political stronghold, William J. Heffernan of the Seventh and Thomas E. Wogan of the Ninth, the two boroughs which gave Senator Cronan his big plurality; Michael J. Butler of the Twelfth district, regarded as one of the most potential Democrats in Kings county, and Col. Michael J. Cummings, an office member of the executive committee. The votes of Kane, Heffernan and Wogan in the minority indicated it was assumed that both Senator Cullen and Cronan could not be counted upon to oppose the nomination of Mr. Riggs.

The Democratic Senators are to meet to-morrow forenoon at the apartment headquarters to take action on the nomination of Mr. Riggs. Senator Loring M. Black, Jr., who is strongly in favor of the nomination, invited his fellow Senators to a conference at Ricker's this afternoon, but it was called off because Senator Cullen and Harden declined to attend. The meeting for to-morrow morning was then arranged at the apartment of Mr. McCooey. A meeting of the Brooklyn Transit Conference, at which about thirty members were present, was held yesterday afternoon to consider the appointment of Mr. Riggs. Although the conference had already informally recorded itself against Mr. Riggs, it developed from the start that there was a strong feeling of opinion as to what formal action should be taken.

Prof. Franklin W. Hooper of the Brooklyn Institute of Art and Sciences suggested the appointment of a committee to confer with Mr. Riggs. He said that he believed if Riggs's confirmation was defeated in the Senate, Brooklyn might get a man on the Public Service Commission in his place who would represent the Interborough company. He said that this would be worse than having a man on the commission who was biased to be prejudiced in favor of a Brooklyn company. "We are not interested," he said, "in the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company particularly, but we are interested in it inasmuch as it represents Kings county."

W. G. Morrissey, Jr., was of the opinion that the conference should do nothing in view of the fact that a "worse man" than a B. R. T. man to represent Brooklyn on the commission might result if Riggs's confirmation was defeated. Public Works Commissioner George W. Wagoner, who is a supporter of Riggs's appointment, and Edwin S. Piper thought that the opposition to Riggs because of his reported connection with the B. R. T. should not be held against him.

The suggestion of Prof. Hooper for the appointment of a committee to confer with Mr. Riggs was adopted in the shape of a formal resolution, the committee to be composed of Dr. George W. Brush, William H. Milnor, Frederick Cranford, Edwin S. Piper, David Porter and William S. Morrissey.

Dr. Brush said he would communicate with Mr. Riggs and arrange for the conference. This statement from Mr. Riggs was published in Brooklyn yesterday afternoon: "In the first place I cannot for the life of me understand why Charles F. Murphy has publicly announced his opposition to the confirmation of my nomination by the State senate, neither can I understand the statement issued by Senator Wagner, declaring on his instructions from Mr. Murphy, that I am a candidate for the post but failed of appointment."

A short time ago the Democratic Senators from Kings county at a conference decided to act in concert regarding this appointment. They prepared a list of candidates to be submitted to Gov. Dix, and agreed that the Governor's selection of that list was to be supported by them. To this programme the other Democratic State Senators agreed. My name was on that list. Yet instantaneously almost after my name reached the State senate, I was asked to sign a statement in which he said: The people of New York city to-day are insistent that

the subway problem be solved at once and in its solution that their interests be safeguarded. For this reason this nomination will come as a great disappointment to them. It was also practically agreed that the commissioner should be a resident of Brooklyn who would represent the best interests of the people of Brooklyn upon the commission. And yet in my conversations with the Senators representing the Borough of Brooklyn they all agreed with the exception of one that Mr. Riggs does not represent that interest. I therefore feel it my duty to the people of the city of New York to oppose to the utmost his (Mr. Riggs's) confirmation.

"My neighbors and friends have put this curious question to me: Are you not able to safeguard the interests of the city of New York as Mr. Wagner? And frankly and without the slightest egotism but relying on a longer experience than the distinguished Senator I have answered them 'I believe I am.'"

"Perhaps some of my writings demanding rigorous political autonomy for Brooklyn have offended Mr. Murphy."

"I am a resident of Brooklyn and have lived in Brooklyn for fifty-five years. What in the world does Mr. Wagner mean by the best interests of the people of Brooklyn upon the commission? I believe I am more competent to speak of and for the best interests of Brooklyn than Mr. Wagner. I am familiar with all the transportation needs of Brooklyn and have been in the city with those needs from a boy. I have lived in many parts of Brooklyn, so that I have grown up with the needs of Brooklyn. I first lived in Leonard and DeVoce streets, then in Sixth street and then in South Third street, all in the Eastern District of Brooklyn, and since my marriage I have lived respectively in Clark, Pacific and Madison streets, South Elliott place, and for the last nineteen years have lived respectively in 48 and 38 South Portland avenue."

"Other curious remarks have been to the effect that I am not a representative Brooklynite. I should like to know what is a 'representative Brooklynite.' Like thousands and thousands of Brooklynites, business men, lawyers and others in the professions, as well as hundreds of thousands of working men and working women, I have gained my livelihood in New York county and spent my money for the necessities of life in Kings county. It is true that I have never looked on Brooklyn as an asset. I have never used Brooklyn for selfish purposes. Here my people and I have lived all these years among our good friends, and for many years my father, James Willoughby Riggs, was a member of the Board of Education of Brooklyn. Here I was educated, here my son was educated before he matriculated at Williams College, and here my dead are in Cypress Hills."

"Hundreds of my neighbors and friends, past and present, are fully acquainted with all these facts. I say again I never made Brooklyn an asset, and by that remark I am not attempting in any way to reflect on our distinguished men in public life and in business life and in the professions who are representative Brooklynites, but they are not Brooklynites for selfish ends. They have reflected honor on our beloved city."

"One of the distinguished members of the Public Service Commission has sought to question my qualifications for this appointment. With all the courtesy at my command I should like to state that there is one of my qualifications which differs very widely from that gentleman's most marked characteristic—a celebrity of action which has been quite absent among his distinguished qualifications."

"I confess to a slight chagrin over the comment of Dr. Brush. He doesn't seem to remember me, although I recall him very well as an efficient and earnest legislator at Albany. I have also admired the zeal of Dr. Brush, and I should like to recall to him certain frequent conversations I had with the Hon. Herman Metz when that distinguished gentleman was Controller of the city of New York. Mr. Metz at first was opposed to South Brooklyn development as represented in the South Brooklyn subway. Frequently I met Mr. Metz at the Manhattan Club and he spoke of his opposition to that measure, saying that the scheme was too expensive and represented only the wishes of certain real estate developments. My constant reply was that our real estate brokers and real estate syndicates and the banking institutions of Brooklyn and New York were the pioneers of all such developments. Mr. Metz complained of the expense, and my advice always to him was to go ahead and give South Brooklyn the necessary transit facilities for development and the increased population due to the development would speedily overcome the additional expense."

"I have always been for the development of Kings county and the Queens county. All of my neighbors and friends are perfectly familiar with my views on that subject. I believe in years to come our bridges from Manhattan to Kings and Queens will be as numerous as tallies in our day. All transit facilities between those boroughs will be by tube and tunnel. Furthermore, I believe that in not a few years the residential portion of Manhattan for high and humble folk will not be better than in our day. Where then can the people of that section of Manhattan go to but The Bronx, Long Island and Richmond? I believe that we cannot build up or develop Kings and Queens and Richmond at the expense of Manhattan and The Bronx. I believe firmly that a great municipality like ours is like the human frame, you can't hurt or help one part without doing good or ill to the rest. We are all one great city."

"One newspaper has referred recently to my nomination to the Public Service Commission as a 'great work and great responsibility.' The newspaper says that for his seven years of work and great responsibility the receiver, whose pay is fixed by statute, received the insignificant sum of \$6,000 each, or \$12,000 in all. Referring to the fact that the receiver's compensation was stated explicitly that the receivers were not at fault in any respect and that the receivers' compensation is fixed by statute the amounts to be paid to their attorneys in all cases fixed by and in the discretion of the court to whom application is made."

Mr. Riggs also explains his connection with the New York Life Insurance Company, saying that it is true that he received over \$3,000 from that corporation, but that the money was paid to him as a newspaper adviser to John A. McCall. He declares further that he wished to explain his connection with the New York Life Company at the time of the insurance investigation, but was not given an opportunity to do so.

W. C. T. U. TO ALDERMEN.
Please Forbid Sale of Liquor in City Buildings or on City Land.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union is to urge the Board of Aldermen to take action forbidding the sale of alcoholic liquors in any building owned or leased by the city or on any land owned or leased by the city. An appeal for cooperation in the getting up of a petition was sent out yesterday from the State headquarters of the union at 158 Fifth avenue to all the clergymen in the city and also to all the women's clubs. The clergymen have been asked to present the matter to their congregations this morning.

Mrs. Ella A. Boale, the State president, explained that the petition is to be specially directed against an application for a license to sell liquor in a cafe in the new Municipal Building, at the Manhattan end of the Brooklyn Bridge. "A recent murder in a roadhouse in one of our public parks," she said, "has brought to the attention of the public the fact that this is located on city property. Licenses to sell liquor in the roadhouses in the public parks do not meet the eyes of the people and the fact is that to issue them would in no sense work a hardship either to the proprietors of the cafe or the frequenters of the parks. We would like to see the city in order and pleasant environment of those who visit these pleasure grounds."

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The artistic harmonizing of hat and gown which has come to be recognized as a characteristic of the perfectly dressed woman is exemplified by an extensive variety of models.

Opening Exhibit of Spring Models
Gowns, Coats, Waists and Millinery
Monday, February 26,
and Continuing

ACCUSED POISONER SAYS NO AND YES
Distracted Girl Seems to Think Only of Her Own Child.
MAY BE VICTIM OF PARANOIA

Doctor Believes That Winifred Ankers Should Be Sent to an Asylum.

The state of mind of Winifred Ankers, the young woman accused of poisoning babies in the Brooklyn Nursery and Infant Hospital, eight of whom have died, may be indicated by the fact that she twice admitted and twice denied yesterday that it was she who put oxalic acid in their milk. Her latest statement, made yesterday afternoon in the Raymond street jail after she had been held in police court for examination on Monday, was, according to a visitor, that she was guilty. According to this visitor, she said:

"I did it because the nurses at the hospital petted other babies but not mine. I didn't mean to kill the other babies. I just wanted it to appear that they were not taking proper care of them."

Two hours before this admission the young woman had said that the confession which she signed late on Friday night had been drawn from her by the police, that she signed her name to it, knowing it to be false, because the detectives had threatened to take her baby from her if she didn't own up. She said the detectives "hounded" her for hours, wouldn't let her sleep, and finally got the confession when she was too tired to resist.

After the detectives went away, she said, she ran to Dr. Herbert C. Allen, an attending physician at the hospital, and cried: "My God, doctor, I have confessed to killing the children and I didn't do it. That's as true as God's in heaven. I confessed to what isn't true to save you and Miss Howard (the head nurse) and the hospital lots of trouble."

Then, she said, she gave Assistant District Attorney Warhouse, who had taken her signed confession, another signed statement repudiating that confession. Mr. Warhouse would not say yesterday afternoon whether or not Miss Ankers spoke the truth as to the alleged repudiation.

"She gave me," he said, "three signed sheets of paper. I cannot at this time reveal the contents of any of them."

Miss Howard, the head nurse, heard a part of Miss Ankers's midnight confession. She said yesterday that she accepted it as a bona fide statement of Miss Ankers's guilt and that so far as she knew the police had not extorted it by rough treatment. Detective Connors, who also heard the confession, admitted that one of the detectives had said: "We'll have to take your baby from you if you don't tell the truth," and this remark, said Connors, brought on the confession.

The Brooklyn District Attorney's office inclines to the belief that Miss Ankers is insane. In looking over her family history it has been found that a sister died in the Home for the Feeble Minded in Brooklyn about three years ago. Alienists employed by District Attorney Grosscup will examine Miss Ankers in the Raymond street jail before she is arraigned. Dr. Allen thinks she has paranoia and should be sent to an institution rather than to prison.

Miss Ankers seemed calm when she appeared before Magistrate Hyman in the Gates avenue court yesterday morning. She wore a black suit, black hat and heavy blue veil. When the Magistrate asked her if she wanted to get counsel he had to explain to her what he meant. She replied: "I have no money to get a lawyer." The Magistrate said he would have to hold her without bail. "But I don't have my baby," she said. "I am nursing him and he needs me."

"They told me before I left the hospital that I could come back and get him." The Magistrate asked if she was ill. She replied: "No, I'm all right. There's something on my mind that has been worrying me so I just told Miss Howard about it. Please let me have my baby."

But the baby will stay at the Infant Hospital for the present. Louis Goldstein, who managed the Union Bank investigation, took charge of the case for the District Attorney last night. Both Miss Ankers's signed confession and her repudiation of the confession were turned over to him. He said that from what he has been able to learn the young mother seemed mentally irresponsible. Mr. Goldstein will have two physicians examine Miss Ankers at the jail this afternoon.

PETITION FOR SUBWAYS.
Big Dry Goods Firms Ask City to Do Something Without Further Delay.

Several of the largest dry goods retail houses in the city have joined in a petition to the Mayor urging definite and speedy action by the city in the subway situation. The petition, which was sent to the Mayor by E. W. Bloomingdale, read in part:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned, merchants and taxpayers of the city of New York, whose sole interest is as such, and not in the construction, operation, promotion or financing of any plan of transit development, beg to urge the importance of prompt action in reaching a determination which shall bring about the extension of present subway routes, and to place upon record our opinion that the prompt reaching of an agreement acceptable to intending bidders and equitable to the city would conserve the best interests of the traveling public and the people of the city of New York generally.

That the consideration of first importance is the construction of subways over routes which will best serve the convenience of the traveling public; that a fraction of a percent, insuring to the profit of those who build and operate the roads is of less importance than an immediate and at the same time a practical solution of the difficult questions involved.

We believe that a great loss has been and is being entailed on the business community and great suffering and inconvenience on the general public by the years of delay occasioned in the effort to reach an agreement concerning the best interests of the traveling public to the city, has not seemed attractive enough to investors to justify the embarkation of private capital in the enterprise.

SIMPSON-CRAWFORD COMPANY, HENRY SIEBEL, president.
GREENEUT-SIEBEL-COOPER COMPANY, B. J. GREENEUT, treasurer.
J. L. KERNER COMPANY, J. L. KERNER, president.

THE 14TH STREET STORE, F. E. VOGL, vice-president.
CAMMEYER, L. M. HART, president.
SABES & COMPANY, P. A. CONNE, secretary.
GIMBEL BROTHERS, New York, BERNARD F. GIMBEL, vice-president.
ROTHENBERG & CO., LEO A. PRICE, vice-president and treasurer.
OFFENHEIM, COLLINS & CO., ISAAC D. LEVY, president.

JAMES A. HEARN & SON.
O'NEILL-ADAMS COMPANY, ALEXANDER MACLEOD, president.
A. A. VANTINE & CO., IRVING E. RAYMOND, president.
LEBOLT & COMPANY, GEORGE W. LEBOLT, D. PRICE & CO., DAVID PRICE, proprietor.

An injunction suit was begun yesterday by the Attorney General's office against the city, the Board of Estimate, the Public Service Commission and the Interborough and Brooklyn Rapid Transit companies to show cause why no subway contract should be entered into which would provide for a preferential payment by the city to either of the two railroad companies. The application for the injunction was made to Supreme Court Justice MacLean in Brooklyn, who made the order returnable before Justice Blackmar in Brooklyn on Tuesday.

McManigal a Witness This Week.
Los ANGELES, Feb. 24.—That Ortie McManigal will go before the County Grand Jury next week was practically admitted to-day. He is expected to give information about minor details of the dynamiting case.

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5TH AVENUE, 34TH AND 35TH STREETS, NEW YORK
FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

A SALE OF CHILDREN'S DRESSES AT ESPECIALLY LOW PRICES
DRESSES OF GINGHAM AND LAWN, SIZES 4 TO 8 YRS. \$2.25
DRESSES OF GINGHAM, SIZES 10 TO 14 YEARS 2.75
DRESSES OF WHITE PIQUE AND REP, SIZES 10 TO 14 YRS. 4.50
DRESSES OF CHALLIS, SIZES 8 TO 14 YEARS 6.50
LINGERIE DRESSES, LACE AND EMBROIDERY TRIMMED, SIZES 8 TO 14 YEARS \$7.50

WOMEN'S IMPORTED UNDERWEAR
VERY LARGE REDUCTIONS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE PRICES OF A NUMBER OF STYLES IN ODD SIZES OF WOMEN'S HAND-EMBROIDERED UNDERWEAR THAT IS TO BE CLOSED OUT.

CHIFFON DRESS TAFFETAS
IN EXTENSIVE ASSORTMENTS OF THE LATEST PARIS FASHIONS OF CHANGEABLE, CHAMELEON AND PLAIN COLORS, 36 TO 42 INCHES WIDE.
SAMPLES WILL BE SUBMITTED ON REQUEST.

THE NEW MOURNING GOODS
FOR SPRING AND SUMMER WEAR
HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT DEVOTED PARTICULARLY TO THE SUPPLYING OF COMPLETE OUTFITS FOR THE DIFFERENT PERIODS OF MOURNING.
SMART FASHIONS IN DRESSES AND TAILOR-MADE SUITS OF TAFFETA, CREPE DE CHINE, CHARMEUSE, VOILE, WHIPCORD, PEAU DE SOIE AND EOLIEENNE.
FRENCH HATS, BONNETS AND VEILS IN CORRECT MODES. SEPARATE WAISTS, NECKWEAR, GLOVES, HANDKERCHIEFS, ETC.

INTERIOR FURNISHING AND DECORATING
B. Altman & Co. REQUEST AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT SKETCHES AND ESTIMATES FOR THE COMPLETE EQUIPMENT OR RE-INSTALLATION OF FURNISHINGS IN COUNTRY RESIDENCES, BUNGALOWS, YACHTS, ETC.
FACILITIES ARE MAINTAINED FOR THE EXPERT EXECUTION OF INTERIOR WORK OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING

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having removed from their 23rd St. Store to their New Building, 20 to 26 West 36th St., where they will open on or about March 4th with an entirely New Stock.
Jacques Cohen, Auctioneer
has been instructed to sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION
the entire stock of
High Grade Furniture
of Every Description
For the Drawing Room, Library, Living Room, Boudoir, Dining Room, etc. Also for the office which was carried in their 23rd St. Store.
TOMORROW AT 11 A. M. AND FOLLOWING DAYS
Sale takes place on the premises.
61-65 West 23rd St., bet. Broadway and 6th Ave.

NOTE—The character, quality and immense variety of this stock which will be sold at absolute Public Sale afford a rare and very unusual opportunity to prospective buyers.
CATALOGUES ON PREMISES.

MAXWELL'S WIDOW INSANE.
Petition to Free Her Is Dropped on Report of Physician.
EASTON, Pa., Feb. 24.—The bottom has fallen out of the proceedings to have Mrs. Howard Maxwell, wife of the late president of the Borough Bank of Brooklyn, released from the Easton Sanitarium. The petition of Mrs. Horace Cragh of New York, asking for a writ of habeas corpus directing Dr. C. Spencer Kinney of the sanitarium to show cause why he should not release Mrs. Maxwell, was filed in the court here by E. W. and J. W. Fox, attorneys, to whom the case had been brought from New York. Certain representations made to these lawyers led them to ask Dr. B. Russ Field of this city to call on Mrs. Maxwell at the sanitarium and report to them his opinion of her condition.
Dr. Field this morning told the attorneys that after spending two hours with Mrs. Maxwell he was compelled to sustain all the statements concerning her mental condition that had been made by Dr. Kinney, Dr. Doolittle and Dr. Green, all of this city. The Messrs. Fox then announced that they would ask the court to dismiss the writ.